

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 27952/wi	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/AT2004/000210	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 03.07.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41N1/06, B41C1/05			
Applicant OESTERREICHISCHE BANKNOTEN- UND SICHERHEITSDRUCK GMBH			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 5 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																								
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/AT2004/000210

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages 2-9 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* 1, 1a, 1b received by this Authority on 13.12.2004 with letter of 07.12.2004
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

nos. 2-9 as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19 13.12.2004 with letter of 07.12.2004
 nos.* 1, 10-12 received by this Authority on 13.12.2004 with letter of 07.12.2004
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

sheets 1/2, 2/2 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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International application No.
PCT/AT2004/000210

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1 The present report refers to the following documents:

D1: DE 44 30 430 C (HUE TTL & VESTER GMBH) 21 December 1995 (1995-12-21)
 D2: EP 0 103 680 A (REPRODEC GRAVUREN GMBH) 28 March 1984 (1984-03-28)
 D3: GB-A-1 044 547 (HELL RUDOLF) 5 October 1966 (1966-10-05)
 D4: WO 02/40272 A (FRAUCHIGER JAKOB; MDC MAX DAETWYLER AG BLEIENBAC (CH)) 23 May 2002 (2002-05-23)
 D5: DE 40 33 230 A (HUECK FA E) 23 April 1992 (1992-04-23)
 D6: US-A-3 556 883 (NAITO AKIRA ET AL) 19 January 1971 (1971-01-19)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

D1 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. D1 discloses: a method for producing a printing plate for gravure printing [see column 1, lines 3 to 12] with which recesses can be introduced by a laser into a base body made of a brass alloy and/or with an

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Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

outer layer made of a brass alloy [see column 2, lines 6 to 40; column 3, lines 20 to 31]. However, it is not directly and unambiguously known from D1 that this method is also suitable for producing a printing plate for intaglio gravure printing. D2-D6 likewise disclose printing plates and production methods that are not suitable for intaglio gravure printing. Standard printing plates for intaglio gravure printing comprise a base body made of nickel and they are galvanically deformed by a working matrix.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs therefore from the known method in that it relates to a method for producing a printing plate for intaglio gravure printing and in that the Vickers hardness of the brass alloy is greater than 140.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be seen as that of indicating a method for producing an intaglio gravure printing plate quickly and giving the printing plate a high degree of reliability, accuracy and rigidity.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons: intaglio gravure printing and gravure printing are two different printing techniques and a person skilled in the art is given no suggestions by the prior art that would lead him

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to apply the teaching for a printing plate for gravure printing to the printing plate for intaglio gravure printing.

3 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 10

For similar reasons, claim 10 likewise meets the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.

4 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-9, 11-12

Claims 2-9 and 11-12 are dependent on claim 1 and 10 and therefore likewise meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.